

Message Text

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15

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INFO OCT-01 EUR-01 ISO-00 /004 R

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DRAFTED BY: AF/C: JHALL DIGGS:LAR

APPROVED BY: AF/C: RSTRAND

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R 232240Z JUL 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

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FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 172816 ACTION LIBREVILLE 22 JUL 75

AND REPEATED ACTION PRETORIA 23 JUL 75

QUOTE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SOPN, PFOR, GB, US

SUBJECT: GABON'S MEDIA CAMPAIGN

REF: (A) LIBREVILLE 1089; (B) LIBREVILLE 1087

1. IN TELEPHONE CONVERSATION WITH DEPARTMENT OFFICER ON JULY 21 AMBASSADOR MAVOUNGOU ANNOUNCED THAT HE HAD BEEN INSTRUCTED TO MOUNT VIGOROUS PUBLICITY CAMPAIGN IN US NEWSPAPERS TO EXPLAIN GABON'S POSITION ON VARIOUS SUBJECTS OF INTERNATIONAL INTEREST. MAVOUNGOU CITED ADVERTISEMENT APPEARING IN JULY 21 WASHINGTON POST AS HIS FIRST EFFORT. AD IS STRAIGHT TRANSLATION OF COMMUNIQUE REFERRED TO IN REFTTEL A. COPY BEING POUCHED.

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2. MAVOUNGOU ALSO MENTIONED THAT HE PALNNED TO PLACE

ANOTHER AD THIS WEEK IN WASHINGTON POST AND PERHAPS IN
NEW YORK TIMES. FROM GENERAL DESCRIPTION IT SEEMS TO
BE TRANSLATION OF COMMUNIQUE IN WHICH PRESIDENT BONGO
RESPONDS TO ASHLAND OIL PAYMENTS CONTROVERSY REPORTED IN
REFTEL B.

3. DEPARTMENT OFFICER COMMENTED THAT SPOTLIGHTING BONGO'S
RESPONSE TO ASHLAND OIL REPORTS MIGHT NOT PRODUCE DESIRED
EFFECT AND INSTEAD DRAW MORE UNFAVORABLE ATTENTION TO GABON.

MAVOUNGOU AGREED, BUT TYPICALLY REPLIED THAT HE WAS JUST
MERE EXECUTOR WHO DID WHAT HE WAS INSTRUCTED. KISSINGER

UNQUOTE. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PUBLIC ATTITUDES, NEWSPAPERS, PUBLICITY CAMPAIGNS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 23 JUL 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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06 JUL 2006

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